



PRESS RELEASE
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC
Idaho Field Office • PO Box 1699 • Boise, Idaho 83701
1-800-691-9987 • www.nass.usda.gov



Released: February 28, 2006

Media Contact: Bill Meyer, Tel # (208) 334-1507
nass-id@nass.usda.gov

Idaho Honey Production Decreased 44 Percent

Idaho honey production in 2005 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 3.52 million pounds, a 44 percent decrease from 2004, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Honey producing colonies are estimated at 95,000 colonies, down 5,000 from last year's estimate. Yield per colony averaged 37.0 pounds, down 26 pounds from the 63.0 pounds in 2004. Producer honey stocks were 1.79 million pounds on December 15, 2005, a decrease of 29 percent from the previous year. The average honey price per pound is 80.0 cents, down 19 cents from a year ago.

United States honey production in 2005 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 175 million pounds, down 5 percent from 2004. There were 2.41 million colonies producing honey in 2005, down 6 percent from 2004. Yield per colony averaged 72.5 pounds, up 1 percent from the 71.8 pounds in 2004. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced, therefore yields per colony may be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 62.4 million pounds on December 15, 2005, up 2 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program. Honey prices decreased during 2005 to 90.4 cents, down 15 percent from 106.9 cents in 2004. Prices are based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and cooperatives. State level honey prices reflect the portions of honey sold through retail, co-op and private channels. Honey prices for each color class are derived by weighing quantities sold for each marketing channel. Honey prices for 2005 were lower than the previous year for all color class totals.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call (208) 334-1507.

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.nass.usda.gov.